

Opinion

Food for thought

By PHIL HETH

I received a phone call at home Saturday morning from Anthony Baron, 12 Coolidge Avenue. He was complaining about the slippery condition of the streets on the east side and felt that the Carbondale NEWS should do something about it.

If you can't take the heat, get out of the kitchen!

I don't like being called at home about business matters. Mr. Baron's conversation could have waited until Monday. He was frustrated, however, because he had first tried to call Mayor Fred Mancuso, City Administrator Joseph Masco, Public Works Superintendent Walter Turonis, and council president Michael Tolencio. Tolencio

Don't blame mayor for everything

Baron was blasting the mayor for fuelling most of the street department. "The city gets money from the state to plow and cinder the streets, so how can they say they don't have any money?" Baron asked. The answer is that the city hasn't received the state's payment yet, and that money is earmarked for the maintenance of the state highways which pass through Carbondale, not the city's residential streets.

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Dirty politics? -- No!

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Throwing in the towel

What disappoints most of us is the apparent "to heck with it" attitude of the administration. The budget which they prepared is senseless. It's a shame to have wasted the paper! There is no provision for reducing the city's deficit and no proposal for the needed tax increase.

Trying to improve the city

It has been said, "Carbondaleans get what they deserve," meaning that the people who run the city are put there by the majority of voters.

For decades it has been the experience of Carbondale newspaper editors that rarely

Remember BFHS

To the Editor:

Oh yes, how well I remember old Benjamin Franklin High School! I spent my childhood years in many afternoons and early evenings in the gymnasium, but I never made it to the outside basketball court. It was a home away from home. I was the year's fourth grade (1962), the year I really became interested in basketball, and why should I have? That was our sport at St. Rose. The school I attended. Little did I know that I would spend at the "court," which was the name we gave it. I say, "we," I'm talking about "Tuse" Mancuso, Bob Andrews, Tony Cerra, Dr. Charlie Brown, P.J. Angotti, Gardner Smith, Frank Cuneo, just to name a few of the childhood friends. Yes, it was our home away from home. When the Angels sang, we knew it was our cue to head for home for supper, but our parents knew, when we were at the "court," I remember how difficult it would be sometimes trying to get into a pickup game or just trying to get a free court to start your own game. It was difficult because kids from all parts of the city would show up at Ben Franklin for a pickup game or just to practice their shooting and other skills that needed to be worked on. They loved the game, but they gave up when we were at the "court."

That big building they called Benjamin Franklin High School looked over those outside basketball courts, but I had never stepped one foot into the gymnasium. I always wondered what it looked like on the inside.

Well I got my chance in the winter of 1962. It was a very cold winter's day and I was wearing my winter clothes and even dangerous. We tried and tried to shove a court clear, but to no avail. The snow was just too deep. We knew there was an inside court in the high school, but we had never set our eyes on it until that day when Smitty the janitor came to the door and told us we could come in and play on the inside court. What a surprise and we could use it and play on the inside court. What a surprise and we could use it and play on the inside court.

We have a "letters to the editor" section where local citizens can say what they feel. Their opinion counts just as much as mine. Let's put our ideas and complaints to some good use by sharing them with the thousands who read the Carbondale News.

Joseph E. Addley Jr.
Carbondale

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